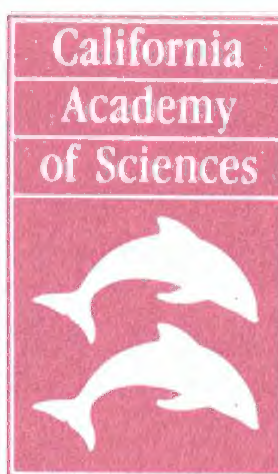
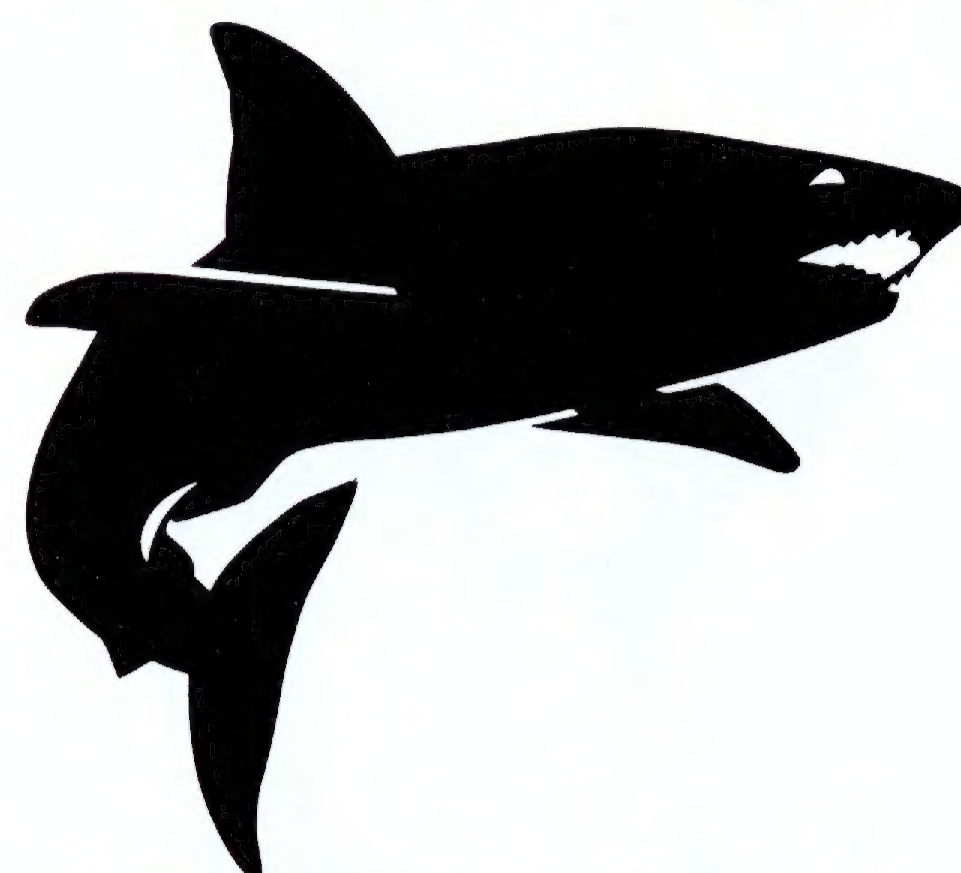


The ACADEMY NEWSLETTER

February 1989



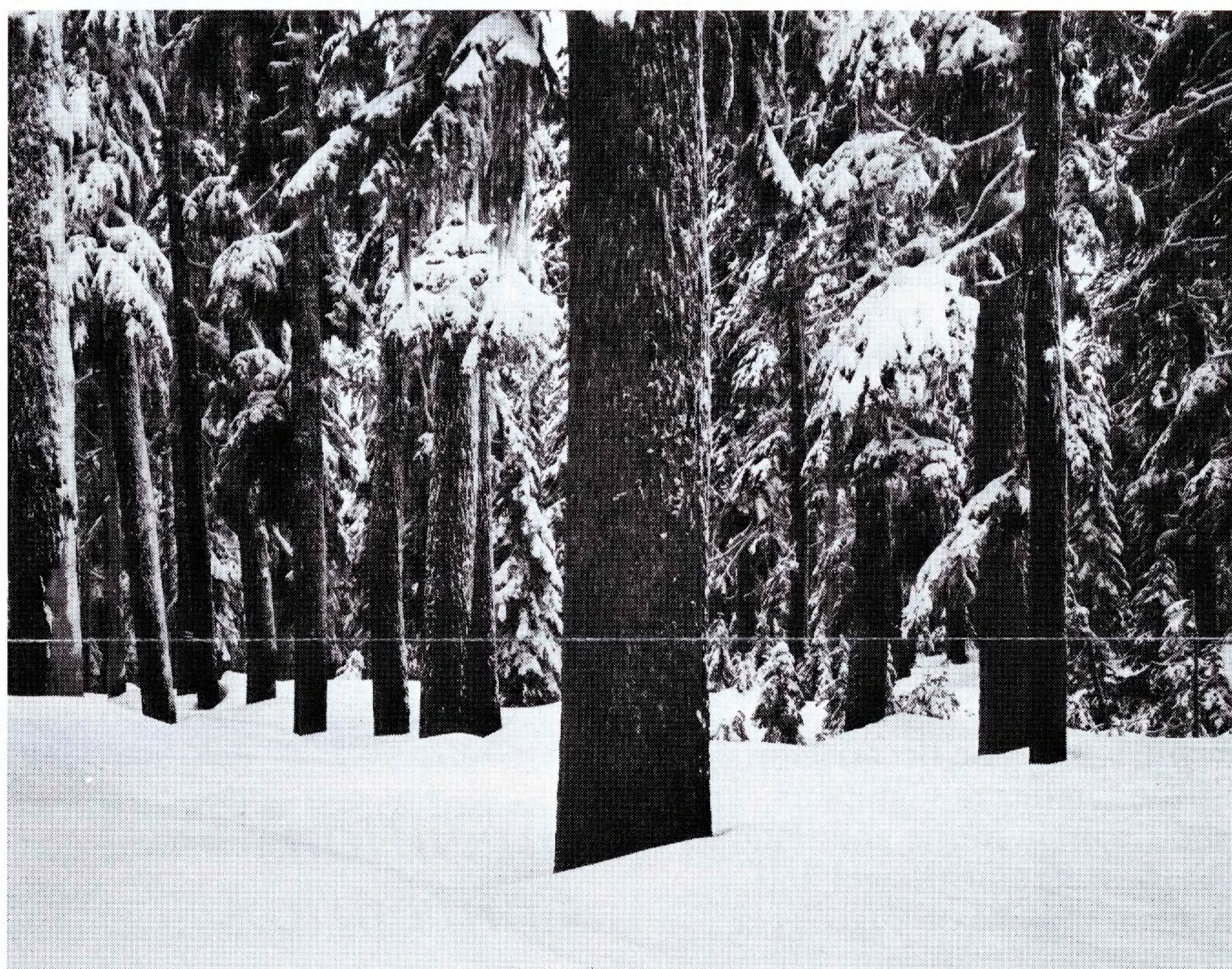
Great White Shark



The Great White Shark (*Carcharodon carcharias*) is the largest flesh-eating shark. It lives in all the world's cool coastal waters and is responsible for the majority of unprovoked shark attacks upon human beings. Since 1926 it has attacked 50 swimmers, surfers and snorklers in California waters. Scientists at the Academy and the Point Reyes Bird Observatory are studying its attack behavior and movements in order to make coastal waters safer. A 13 1/2-foot, 1,500 pound male was caught and donated to the Academy by Half Moon Bay fisherman Michael McHenry. The shark was caught in the Gulf of the Farallones, west of the Golden Gate. This impressive, frozen specimen is now on display in the Academy's Steinhart Aquarium, near the living amphibians and reptiles. A special refrigerated display case has been constructed to house the shark for public viewing.

This perfectly preserved shark is frozen with its mouth open in attack position. The effect is both frightening and fascinating. Visitors can be within a few feet of this formidable creature of the deep. Rarely have Great White Sharks been successfully kept alive in captivity for more than a few hours. Great Whites are not as abundant in the wild as other species of sharks. As a result the chances of encountering a small shark (a newborn is nearly 5 feet) that would be manageable for capture are very rare. For more information on the Academy's frozen Great White Shark display, call the Public Information Office at 750-7142.

February Members' Meetings



Ron Cronin

The beauty and diversity of Oregon's natural wonders are celebrated in a unique presentation by photographer and naturalist Ron Cronin. On Wednesday, February 8 at 2:00 and 7:30 p.m. and Thursday, February 9 at 7:30 p.m., Cronin will present "Oregon Forests," a slide show set to music. This program reflects a lifelong respect and love for the outdoors and centers upon the photographer's favorite study — the forest.

For 20 years, Cronin has attempted to dispel the stereotype that Oregon is soggy country shrouded in mist and rain. In reality, only the Western third of the state is rainy with the remaining two-thirds primarily Great Basin Desert. From the lush rain forests

of the Western third with its towering Sitka Spruce and Douglas Fir to the dry expanses of Pine, Juniper and Aspen east of the Cascades, Cronin captures the beauty of the forest with his camera. His intent is to establish a connection between the viewer and each scene so that the beauty of nature and not his craft will come through. Cronin's portfolio includes a best-selling calendar, "Follow the Wind," a contribution to the PBS "Planet Earth" series and a book, "Song of the Earth."

The Academy Store will be open before and after the February evening meetings. Next month, naturalist Walt Anderson will present "The Inland Island — Sutter Buttes" on March 8 and 9.

Traditional Arts



Don Klein

Carnaval Dancer

The world becomes just a little smaller at the Academy's weekly Traditional Arts presentations. Drawing upon the talents of Bay Area residents from around the world who are proud to share their heritage of music, folk arts and cooking, Traditional Arts programs offer visitors a first-hand look at customs and cultures from

around the world. The programs, which take place each Saturday in Wattis Hall, are endowed by a gift from the Paul L. and Phyllis Wattis Foundation. All programs begin at 1:00 p.m.

February 4 - The Academy celebrates Brazilian *carnaval* (Feb. 4-7) with Conceicao Damasceno performing the samba and other lively folk dances, accompanied by live drumming (*bateria*) featuring Dennis Broughton and the Brazilian Allstars.

February 11 - Mosheh Milon demonstrates the construction of a *djimbe*, one of the many wooden drum types used by the Bambara people of Guinea, West Africa.

February 18 - The sounds of ancient Peru come alive in a concert by Juanita and Nayo Ulloa performing on a variety of pre-Columbian instrument such as the *zamponas* (panpipes). Their repertoire includes traditional vocal styles from the Andean altiplano to the coastal deserts.

February 25 - The Becari Tamburitza Orchestra highlights Serbo-Croatian music and singing from the different villages and mountain regions of Yugoslavia and the Balkan countries. The string band plays on customary instruments — the *prima*, the *brac*, the *bugaria* — as well as violin and bass fiddle.

A New Look at Trees: A Symposium

Co-sponsored by the Academy of Sciences and the University of California Botanical Garden, "A New Look at Trees," a symposium and workshop, brings together a distinguished roster of tree specialists for two days of education and interchange at the Academy on February 19 and 20.

The symposium will cover issues of tree management in urban areas, maintaining tree health through the control of pests and

diseases, trees for dry landscapes and an explanation of new tree biology.

A workshop, "Tree Biology in Practice," features ten hours of continuing education for certified arborists or tree workers approved by ISA. For further information contact: Tree Symposium, University of California Botanical Garden, Centennial Drive, Berkeley, CA 94720. (415) 642-3343.

Skywatch '89

"Skywatch '89," the new show in the Morrison Planetarium, offers a sneak preview of the heavenly events that will occur in our skies during 1989. The show looks ahead to the solar and lunar eclipses, dramatic meteor showers, and other celestial events of the new year. Man-made celestial events are not as easily predictable as nature's, but the program will offer the latest information on the American and Soviet space programs planned for this year, including two U.S. probes to Jupiter and Venus and a Soviet probe to Mars.

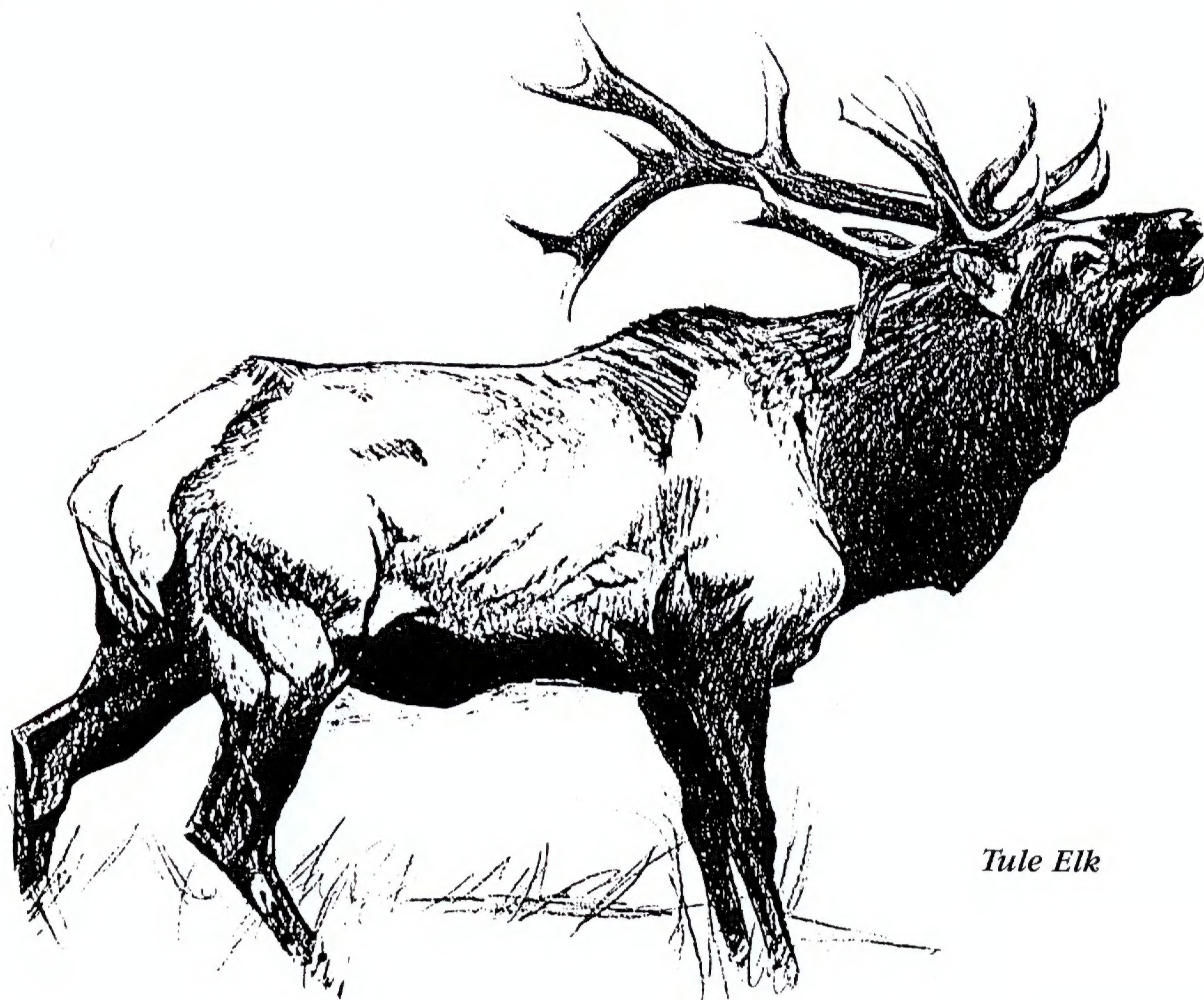
"Skywatch '89" continues through March 26 on weekdays at 2:00 p.m. and weekends at 1:00, 2:00, 3:00 and 4:00 p.m. "Startalk" offers a look at the season's night skies over San Francisco from the comfortable seats and always clear skies in Morrison Planetarium. Shows are on Saturdays and Sundays at noon. For taped information on sky shows call 750-7141.

Invention Convention

Students from the San Francisco school district have been learning about inventors and inventions during the past several months as part an effort to encourage critical and creative thinking skills.

Through this integrated home/school learning project, each student has created an original invention. On February 22, representative inventions from each school will be on display in the Academy's African Safari. The Invention Convention will determine the top inventions and inventors from our District. Those winners will then be eligible to compete at the regional, state and, perhaps, the national levels, if successful. Bring the whole family on Wednesday, February 22 to see the latest inventions by budding local talent.

Pedro Gonzales: Wildlife Illustrations



Tule Elk

Few artists combine the knowledge of science with the skills of draftsmanship as well as Pedro Gonzales, who created the poster and side panels for the dioramas in Wild California. A new exhibit, "Pedro Gonzales: Wildlife Illustrations," features his original draw-

ings for Wild California along with several other oil paintings and mixed-media water colors. This special exhibition will be on display February 18 through June 18 in the Academy's Cowell Hall Gallery.

Members Come to the Aid of Our Scientists

In November members of the Academy were provided an opportunity to assist the Research Division with much-needed equipment for our scientists. Members have generously responded with contributions in excess of \$15,000 toward the purchase of a dissecting microscope for the Botany Department, a continuous Sound Spectral Analyzer for ornithological research, \$30 drawers for the Entomology Department and a laser printer for the production of publication quality illustrations for all Academy scientists. Two additional gifts of \$10,000 and \$15,000 will be directed toward the procurement of the Sound Spectral Analyzer and several types of measuring

devices that can be interfaced with the computer.

Your entire donation will directly benefit the Research Division as all printing and mailing costs were paid for by Northern Trust of California, an asset management and fiduciary company new to Northern California. A subsidiary of Northern Trust of Chicago, Northern Trust's Managing Director John Ducato and Marketing Director Mike Pescatello were eager to work with the Academy to become an active part of the San Francisco community.

Additional funds are still needed to realize our goal for our scientists. Please contact the Development Office at 750-7216 if you would like to make a contribution.

Wild California: The Film

In conjunction with the special exhibition, "Sliding Toward Extinction: The Vanishing Wildlife of California," co-sponsored by the Academy and the California Nature Conservancy, we are proud to present a screening of "Wild California" by National Geographic filmmaker David Oyster on Wednesday, March 22 at 7:30 p.m. The film documents California's natural diversity with tours of the many endangered ecosystems and celebrates the people dedicated to protecting them. Steve McCormick, Director of the California Nature Conservancy will be on hand to discuss the Conservancy's efforts to save endangered species, emphasizing models for success.

This film and lecture are being presented free of charge on a first-come, first-served basis. For more information call the Academy's Public Information Office at 750-7142.

Lecture Discovery of Pluto

Clyde Tombaugh, professor emeritus at New Mexico State University, and the only man in the 20th century to discover a planet, will present a lecture at the Academy on Thursday, March 2 at 7:30 p.m. Dr. Tombaugh, now 82, will discuss a lifetime of achievements, the most notable being his discovery of Pluto on February 18, 1930.

After his talk, the public is invited to meet Dr. Tombaugh personally for a poster signing. All proceeds from the event benefit the Clyde Tombaugh Scholarships at New Mexico State. Tickets are \$4 for members and \$5 for non-members. To purchase tickets, send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to the Special Programs Office, California Academy of Sciences, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, Ca 94118. For more information call 750-7217.

Lecture *Between Extremes*



In a lecture focusing upon California's ecological diversity, photographer and author Steve Kasper will recount a cross-country journey from Death Valley to the summit of Mt. Whitney on Tuesday, February 28 at 7:30 p.m. Kasper, accompanied by his wife and brother, walked 183 miles in 18 days and climbed more than 35,000 vertical feet. Kasper is a Bay Area photographer and writer whose photojournalistic credits include *Sierra* and *Outdoor Photographer* magazines. Tickets are \$3 for members and \$4 for non-members. To purchase tickets, send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to the Special Programs Office, California Academy of Sciences, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA 94118. For more information call 750-7217.

Young Photographers, Get Ready

Entry forms are now available for the seventh annual Photography Contest for Young People. All photographers under 18 can enter their work for a chance to win prizes and be part of an exhibition of works to be displayed at the Academy in 1989. The competition is sponsored by KRON-TV and the California Academy of Sciences. For information and entry forms call the Academy's Education Office at (415) 750-7100.

Treasures of Wild California

On Thursday, February 2 at 7:30 p.m., the California Academy of Sciences and the Film Arts Foundation will present a film program, "Treasures of Wild California: Hawks, Seals and Other Things — As Seen By Northern California Filmmakers." The program of three short works features success stories of two species brought back from the brink of extinction and warnings that the fight to save many others is just beginning. Presented in conjunction with two important exhibits at the Academy — the new hall of Wild California and Academy photographer Susan Middleton's show "Sliding Toward Extinction: The Vanishing Wildlife of California" — the films offer another perspective on this timely issue. Both exhibits will be open for viewing after the screening.

The program features Judy Irving and Chris Beaver's "Treasures of the Greenbelt," a celebration of the nearly four-million acres that

comprise the unique greenbelt of the San Francisco Bay Area. Also included are Pascale Weimerskirch's "The Harris' Hawk: A Return to the River" and "The Northern Elephant Seal: Living on the Edge of Extinction" by Daniel Zatz. Tickets are \$3 for members and \$4 for non-members. To purchase tickets, send a self-addressed stamped envelope to the Special Programs Office, California Academy of Sciences, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA 94118. For more information call 750-7217.



Travel the World on Academy Expeditions

Let an Academy scientist lead you to a foreign shore! The destination might be almost anywhere on the globe, and your leader will offer special insights to the world around you. Academy Expeditions in 1989 offer a busy schedule of wild and wonderful tours across the globe.

Guatemala
Heartland of the Ancient Maya
March 31-April 15
Leader: Dr. Peter Mathews

Costa Rica
March 28-April 8
Leader: Dr. Frank Almeda

The Silk Road
April 30-May 24
Leader: Nancy Pickford

Mongolia and Siberia
June 8-July 1
Filled - Waiting list only

Foods of France
June 17-July 2
Leader: Narsai David

Greenland and the
Canadian Arctic
July 26-August 9
Leader: Dr. James Kelley

Canada: Prairies and Peaks
August 2-13
Leader: Jacques Gauthier

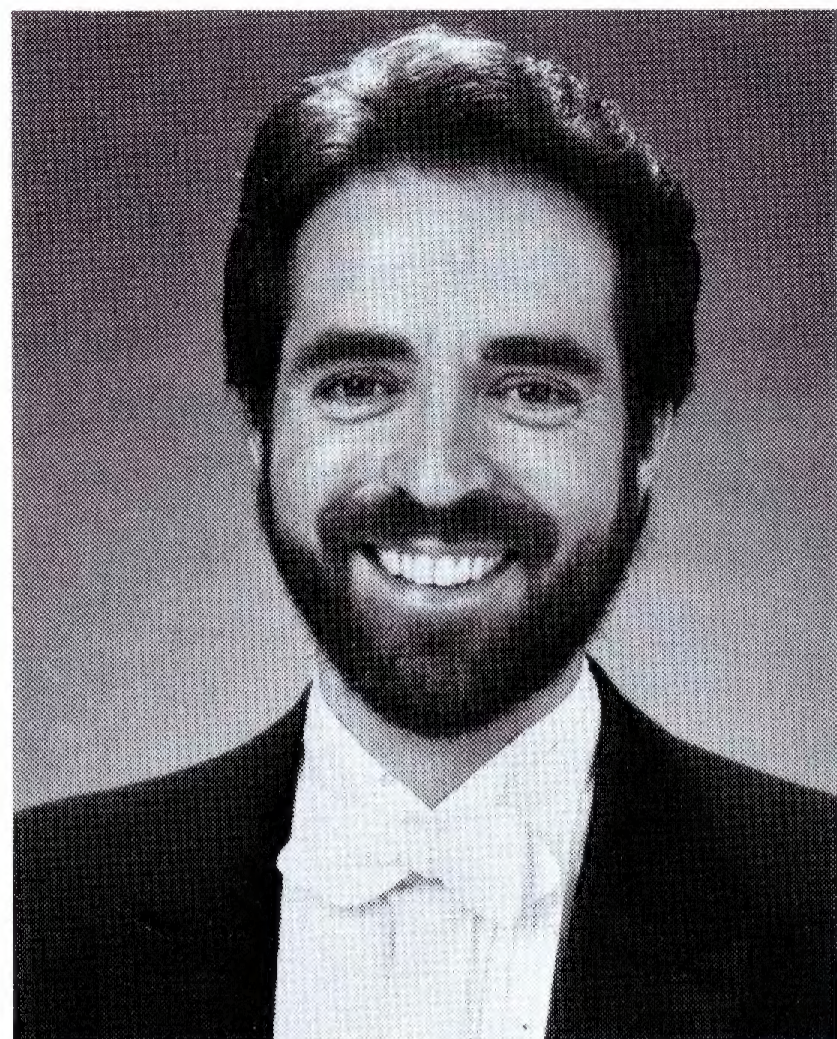
Caravans of Central Asia:
Samarkand, Tashkent, Bukhara
September 9-22

Namibia and Botswana:
A Safari
September 11-29
Leader: Beth Dunbar

New Zealand, Tasmania,
and Australia
September 27-October 17
Leader: Dr. Frank H. Talbot

For information on Academy expeditions call the Academy's Travel Office at (415) 750-7222.

Planetarium Concert



William Ganz
Director, Cable Car Chorus

San Francisco's male barbershop harmony group, the Cable Car Chorus will perform in the Academy's Morrison Planetarium on Tuesday, February 14 at 8:00 p.m. A part of San Francisco's musical heritage since 1945, the group has specialized in performing at conventions in the city as well as around the country. The Valentine's Day concert will feature a group from within the Cable Car Chorus as well as several barbershop quartets from outside the group. They will present a program of traditional unaccompanied four-part harmony. The featured quartet is "The Five Opinions," consisting of Charles Feltman, tenor; Al Zemsky, lead; Rob Gorlin, baritone; and Ron Losk, baritone.

This last year, in addition to convention appearances, the chorus made two live broadcast performances — one on KQED-FM's "West Coast Weekend" and the second on Mark Thomson's evening weather at 6:30 p.m. from Aquatic Park at Fisherman's Wharf. Don't miss this chance to hear the chorus in the superb acoustic environment of the Morrison Planetarium.

Tickets are \$6 for members and \$8 for non-members. To purchase tickets, send a self-addressed stamped envelope to Morrison Planetarium, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA 94118. For more information call (415) 750-7129.

Continuing Exhibits

The Academy currently has two spectacular environmental photography exhibits, "Sliding Toward Extinction" and "Gorilla."

"Sliding Toward Extinction" features 25 large-scale color photographs by Academy photographer Susan Middleton. Each image is a sensitive portrait of one of the more than 250 native California plants and animals already listed as endangered, threatened or rare. The show was developed by the Academy of Sciences and the California Nature Conservancy, an organization dedicated to preserving endangered species. The exhibit is funded by Chevron USA and the Dean Witter Foundation, and will be on display through May 18.

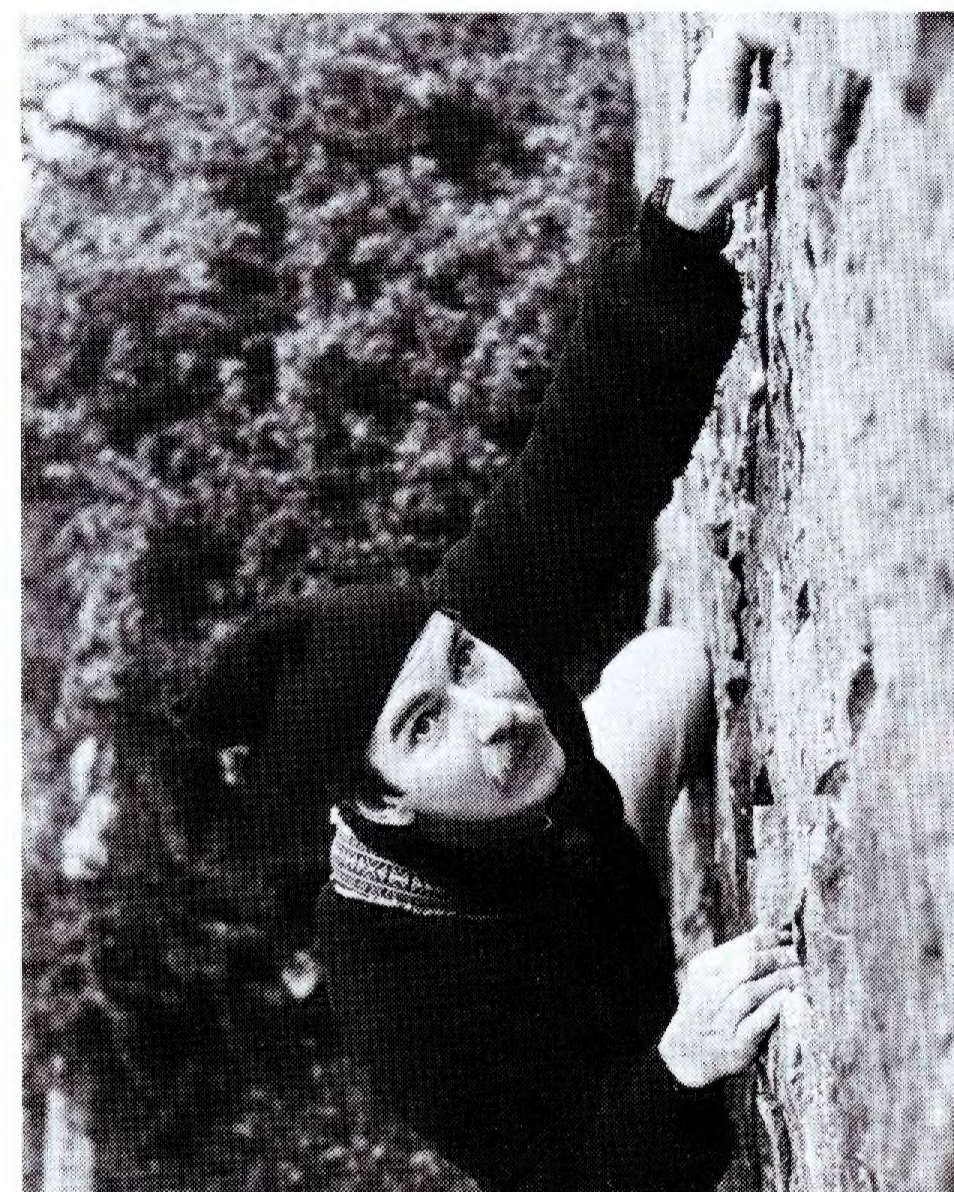
"Gorilla" focuses on the endangered mountain gorillas of Rwanda with the compelling photography of Nick Nichols and on-location recordings by Dr. Bernie Krause. The exhibit is co-sponsored by the Academy and the Aperture Foundation. Major funding for "Gorilla" has been provided by Mr. and Mrs. George Roberts with generous support from Mr. and Mrs. Carroll Soo-Hoo and the Institute of Museum Services. The exhibit will be on display through April 30.

Young Audiences of the Bay Area

With funding from the McKesson Foundation, Young Audiences of the Bay Area Inc. is pleased to sponsor a series of performing arts programs for children, taking place one Sunday every month through June 1989 in Wattis Hall. On Sunday, February 26 at 1:00 p.m., the Oberlin Dance Company performs. In a witty introduction to the world of modern dance, the Company explores the creative process of body movements in making a dance.

Lecture Mt. Kenya Climbing Expedition

February 16, 7:30 p.m.



Brian O'Malley Scales Africa's Most Demanding Peak

The American Mt. Kenya Expedition is the story of a small alpine expedition of two climbers attempting the difficult "Diamond Couloir" ice route on Mt. Kenya. Mt. Kenya is Africa's second highest, but most demanding peak. Located just ten miles south of the equator, Mt. Kenya rises to 17,058 feet.

On Monday, February 16 at 7:30 p.m. in the Morrison Auditorium, adventurer Brian O'Malley will share with us this spectacular climbing expedition. The audience will experience the beauty of Africa through breath-taking sounds and photography. O'Malley will lead us through the African savanna, the lush rain forest, to the arctic conditions of the dangerous Diamond Couloir of Mt. Kenya — a 2,000 foot sheer wall of ice and snow. Its location on the equator, the unique ecological system and technically demanding routes, all add to the lure of Mt. Kenya. Tickets are \$4 for members and \$5 for non-members. To purchase tickets, send a self-addressed stamped envelope to The Special Programs Office, California Academy of Sciences, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA 94118. For more information call 750-7217.

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February at the Academy

Continuing exhibitions:

"Sliding Toward Extinction: The Vanishing Wildlife of California" through May 18

"Gorilla" through April 30

4 Traditional Arts — Brazilian Carnaval 1:00 p.m.

8 Members' Meetings "Oregon Forests"
2:00 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.

9 Members' Meeting 7:30 p.m.

11 Traditional Arts — W. African Drum making
1:00 p.m.

14 Planetarium Concert 8:00 p.m.

16 Lecture — "Mt. Kenya Climbing Expedition"
7:30 p.m.

18 Pedro Gonzales: Wildlife Illustrations" opens

18 Traditional Arts — Peruvian Music 1:00 p.m.

19 Symposium: "A New Look at Trees"

20 Symposium continues

25 Traditional Arts — Balkan Music 1:00 p.m.

26 Young Audiences — Oberlin Dance Company
1:00 p.m.

28 Lecture — "Between Extremes" 7:30 p.m.



On Valentine's Day put stars in your leading lady's eyes with a gift of jewelry from the Academy Store. See our expanded selection in the Ethnographic Gallery adjacent to the store.

Looking Ahead to March

2 Lecture — "The Discovery of Pluto" 7:30 p.m.

8 Members' Meetings — "Sutter Buttes"
2:00 and 7:30 p.m.

9 Members' Meeting 7:30 p.m.

26 Skywatch '89 closes in the Morrison Planetarium